

**In the specification:**

Page 1, lines 1-2, delete the title ~~PROTECTION OF SECOND POLE TIP THICKNESS DURING FABRICATION OF A WRITE HEAD~~ and substitute therefor A PROCESS OF FABRICATING A WRITE HEAD WITH PROTECTION OF A SECOND POLE TIP THICKNESS.

Page 28, lines 1-2, delete the title ~~PROTECTION OF SECOND POLE TIP THICKNESS DURING FABRICATION OF A WRITE HEAD~~ and substitute therefor A PROCESS OF FABRICATING A WRITE HEAD WITH PROTECTION OF A SECOND POLE TIP THICKNESS.

**In the Abstract:**

Page 28, lines 6-14, delete the entire abstract paragraph and substitute therefor

A method of making a magnetic head, which has an air bearing surface (ABS) and a back gap (BG), comprising the steps of: forming a second pole tip of a second pole piece with a top surface and a bottom surface at an ABS site for said ABS; the top surface of the second pole tip having a write region located at the ABS site and a stitch region which is recessed in its entirety from the ABS site toward said back gap; depositing a protective sacrificial layer on the write region of the second pole tip; removing said sacrificial layer from only the stitch region of the second pole tip; and forming a second pole piece yoke of a second pole piece magnetically connected to the stitch region of the second pole tip.